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ABSTRACT

Participation by West German youth in international assistance to developing nations is examined. International assistance is interpreted to include public, private, and religious programs and projects involved in technical advancement, food distribution, agricultural development, health improvement, and natural resource development in other nations. Examples of organizations which have provided many German youth with an opportunity to serve in developing nations include the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the World Bank, the World Health Organization (international); the German Agency for Technical Cooperation, the German Development Society, the German Foundation for International Development, the German Development Service (German government sponsored); Bread for the World, International Christian Peace Service, (religious), the Carl-Duisberg Society, and the German Academic Exchange Service (private). It is estimated that approximately 3,000 Germans, including many young people, participated in developing nations as development aid assistants in 1978. Specific projects in which German youth have participated include technical/handicraft projects in Africa, production cooperatives in Latin America, mechanical/vocational schools and a furniture factory in Kenya, and construction of a dam in Upper Volta. The conclusion is that German youth will be even more willing to participate in international assistance programs if they are educated to understand the interrelationships between developing and developed nations. (DB)

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YOUNG GERMANS ASSIST THE THIRD WORLD

by

Dr. Claus Hofmeier

SO 012 456

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Contents

	Page
1. Overcoming Hunger	1
2. Forms of Development Aid	2
3. Development Assistants in the Third World	5
History and Aims	5
Selection Criteria for Development Assistants	6
DED Activities	6
Project Examples	7
Problems and Solutions to Problems	1o
A List of Trades and Professions which are practically always in Demand	12
4. Campaigns in the Federal Republic	13
The Churches	13
Schoolchildren and Students	14
Aid through Trade	17
The Development of applied Technologies	19
The Engagement of Ideals: Publications and Demands	2o
Schools and Development Policy	2o
5. Experiences and Conclusions	22

1. Overcoming Hunger

(INP). At the UN 's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) general assembly 1979, Pope John Paul II described the overcoming of hunger as the most difficult and urgent problem of the world. This statement is underlined by means of facts and figures, which had previously been published in the World Bank's new World Development Report. According to this report, at present some 800 million people are living in absolute poverty - which signifies: close to a billion people are not capable of feeding themselves sufficiently and of providing themselves with the things most essential for life. According to the World Bank experts, this terrifyingly high number will drop only if a series of favourable factors coincide with one another. The growth rate in the developing countries could amount to 3.3 per cent on a per capita basis - providing that the growth in the industrial countries were to accelerate (to reach 4.2 per cent yearly average) - and even if this were to be the case, the World Bank estimates that at the end of this century, there would still be 600 million people living in absolute poverty. Should the industrial nations fail to reach the projected growth rate and for instance, achieve only 3.5 per cent, then the number of starving people would rise - according to the World Bank - by a further 100,000.

These are of course, theoretical calculations but nevertheless, it cannot be denied that : in view of increasing world economic interdependence, any reduction in the countless millions of people living under the minimum existence rate depends upon the growth achievements of the industrial states. These states for their part, which after all are dependent upon the raw materials supplied by the developing countries, must do more than simply ensure adequate growth rates: they must open markets for Third World products - something which in the end effect, is also of advantage to the industrial countries-, they must resort to drastic energy saving measures, in order to ensure that the developing countries also are certain of their oil supplies. Last but certainly not least, they must increase their development aid contributions considerably. Most of them - including the major donor nations such as the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan - are still far removed from the target of 0.7 per cent of the GNP (Gross National Product) which they have committed themselves to make available for

public development aid. Notwithstanding, the over-average annual 12.5 per cent increases decided upon by the Federal Cabinet in Bonn are pointing in the right direction. However, there is a lot more to it than public development aid alone. There is sufficient leeway for private and non-statal initiatives and organisations and there are many possibilities to deploy effectively initiatives in the field of development policy by young people in particular so that visible social and economic progress can be achieved in the developing countries.

2. Forms of Development Aid

Development political organisations, quite regardless of whether they are state, semi-statal, supra-statal, church or private organisations, are a kind of "transmission belt" for transferring capital, for deploying personnel in the Third World and for passing on technical knowledge. There are so many organisations in the field of development policy that it tends to become confusing. On the international sector they include: the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation) of the UN,the UNDP (United Nations Development Programme), WHO (World Health Organisation); there is also the WFP (World Food Programme), there is UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organisation) and last but not least, the World Bank, which finances development projects. A number of young Germans work in these and other organisations.

To attempt list all the development-political organisations of the Federal Republic would far exceed the scope of this survey. Numbered among the best-known state organisations is the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit - GTZ). It plans projects and programmes together with the developing countries and engages experts who are commissioned with their running and execution. At the end of 1978, the GTZ was represented with 396 personnel projects in 81 countries. Another state-owned organisation is the German Development Society (DEG), which promotes the development of the economy in the developing countries, making use of private-economic principles in the process. In addition, there are non-state organisations, which the Federal Government had set up especially for certain development political purposes. The German Foundation for International Development (DSE) - which is financed by the state - must be mentioned here. It is engaged

in the field of training and advanced instruction for experts and executives from developing countries and also prepares German specialists for assignments abroad in the emergent states. Another organisation we must make mention of is the German Development Service (DED), which was established in 1963 as a non-profit making body.

The Carl-Duisberg Gesellschaft (CDG) is numbered among those non-statal organisations, which caters for the continuation of development-political measures on behalf of the Federal Government. This organisation is supported by the state, the Länder and German industry and concentrates mainly upon foreign experts and executives in the Federal Republic of Germany for professional reasons (1978 : 3,130). The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) arranges university grants for the training and advanced instruction of potential university teachers from developing countries in the Federal Republic, provides grants for foreign students in the Federal Republic and sends guest professors and lecturers to higher seats of learning in the developing countries.

As far as the church organisations are concerned, on the Protestant side, there are the Protestant Central Office for Development Aid, "Brot für die Welt" and the Church Development Service; on the Catholic side, there are the Central Office for Development Aid and Misereor. The churches send out development aid experts and assistants via the Working Group for Development Aid (AGEH, sponsored by Catholic organisations and institutions) via Oversea Services (DÜ, sponsored by Protestant organisations and institutions). In addition, the International Christian Peace Service - Eirene - and the World Peace Service operate on behalf of the churches.

The Foundations belonging to the major political parties are also engaged in the field of development policy: the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (SPD), the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (CDU), the Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FDP) and the Hanns Seidel Foundation (CSU). They are above all, engaged in the field of training and education. In addition to these, there are many private organisations, starting with the German "Welthungerhilfe", the German Red Cross, the German Caritas Association or for instance, Terre des Hommes.

The question how many German development aid assistants - including young people from this country - are actually deployed in the Third World cannot be answered accurately. However, statistics supplied by the Federal Government provide an indication about the number of personnel operating on behalf of the major German agencies:

The number of experts belonging to the most important German agencies developed as follows in 1977 and 78:

Experts of German Agencies deployed Abroad	1977 (based on end of year)	1978
German Development Service (DED)	744	745
Working Group for Development Aid (AGEH)	266	244
Oversea Services (DÜ)	189	180
World Peace Service	9	16
International Christian Peace Service (EIRENE)	53	45
German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ)	1107	1196
Konrad Adenauer Foundation	44	49
Friedrich Ebert Foundation	98	106
Friedrich Naumann Foundation	41	53
Hanns Seidel Foundation	1	3
Federal Agency for Geo-Sciences and Raw Materials	117	160
Federal Agency for Physical Technology	6	7
Total	2675	2804

3. Development Assistants in the Third World

The Example of the German Development Service (DED)

History and Aims

The international Middle-Level Manpower Conference, which took place in Puerto Rico in October 1962, called upon the industrial and the developing nations to set up voluntary services. This proposal fell on fertile ground in many countries, including the Federal Republic. In setting such a service up, it was initially able to orientate itself on the example of the Americans, who had established a Peace Corps and other private voluntary organisations in various European countries. The German Development Service (Deutsche Entwicklungsdienst - DED) was thus set up in 1963. The DED is a non-profit making body. It is sponsored by the Federal Republic of Germany and an association of private German organisations bearing the name "Study Group Learning and Helping Abroad". The state is responsible for its financing.

The DED has a high aim to fulfil: It understands itself to be "an element of peace policy and as a step along the way to a world-wide peace service". The operations of the service are founded on the realisation of human rights, furthermore DED development assistants are not permitted to cooperate in programmes and institutions, whose main purpose serves a para-military type of training. The DED has no desire to force its development-political notions upon others - instead it is prepared to subjugate its operations to the objectives of its partners in the developing countries. The work it carries out must also not lead to native staff being deprived of their jobs or of being forced to move elsewhere. Instead, an attempt to cooperate is made wherever the host countries lack suitable personnel of their own.

Overall, the intention is to contribute towards "reducing the social and economic differences in the developing countries and removing the unilateral dependence of the developing countries upon the industrial nations" - according to an information pamphlet published by the DED.

Selection Criteria for Development Assistants

Any organisation with such high aims must ensure that it is particularly careful in choosing its development assistants. The DED attempts to ensure this by applying the following criteria: the applicant must be at least 21 years old and have completed his vocational training in one of the professions approved by the DED. The candidate's health must be suitable as well as his other personal qualifications - and tests and personal interviews are carried out to determine these as much as possible. In the process, stress is laid upon open-mindedness regarding social problems, critical appraisal and the ability to appraise oneself critically, endurance and the capacity to cooperate with other people. A knowledge of foreign languages is desired. The development assistants have to commit themselves to serve for at least two years. Before they are sent abroad, they are prepared for their task in a preparatory course of ten weeks' duration. Anyone sent out in to the field has to be aware that he is not a "missionary of the West" or a representative of the foreign and economic interests of the Federal Republic of Germany. He can only be deployed providing that the host nation consents to his deployment - and of course, his status as guest means that there are certain things he must observe and take into consideration. In other words, not every applicant can become a development assistant and even those who are suitable both professionally and personally cannot always be deployed. It can happen for instance, that candidates were being sought for a particular project but the project was then dropped during the search for them.

DED Activities

The activities of development assistants in foreign countries takes place in accordance with a framework agreement between the government of the host nation and the Federal Republic. Numbered among the prior conditions for deployment is that the development assistant's security is ensured, his collaboration desired and that this is concentrated on projects, which will be of use to socially and economically prejudiced groups. In addition, projects are given preference to which have a certain pilot effect - in other words, stimulate others to copy them and act as examples; which furthermore, fit into the given social

environment, trigger off efforts towards self-help and which also provide the development assistant with the chance to learn something from the host country. At present, the DED is engaged in 27 host countries; at the end of July 1979, there were 737 persons working there. In addition, there are a further 15 development assistants who cooperate in United Nations Voluntary Service projects. The vast majority (479) operate in Africa, whilst 138 development assistants work in Latin American countries and 120 in Asian ones. Numbered among the project sectors are technical-handicraft programmes, e.g. the setting up of workshops or the development of production cooperatives including the training of craftsmen and technicians. The assistant carries out practical collaboration, demonstration and consultation in the fields of farming, domestic science, village crafts, nutrition, hygiene, etc. Further sectors of activity for the DED are the health services including the training and guidance of local staff; work in education and science, whereby instruction is mainly given in technical and natural science subjects; agricultural development, including the setting up of animal rearing stations or the execution of settlement and irrigation projects; in trade, industry and adminstration - as e.g. helping to establish a system of cooperatives.

Project Examples

The fact that the number of DED development assistants is distributed among 27 host countries - after all, there are more than 150 emergent states altogether - shows that the range of personnel is deployed in a concentrated manner. And indeed, among these 27 countries, there are also certain main concentrations. In January 1979, e.g. there were 30 development assistants operational in Kenya, half of them in the schools and universities. Here, a number of examples: a car mechanic teaches car technology and metal working at the Kaiboi Technical School. At the Kiambu Institute of Science and Technology, a construction engineer, a mechanical engineer and an electrical engineer teach construction, technical drawing, sanitary installation and electrical engineering.

Five experts are deployed for technical-crafts programmes. Here, are two examples taken from a DED report:

Association for the Physically Disabled of Kenya (APDK) - Likoni Sheltered Workshop

(2 Development Assistants)

Project Location: Likoni/Mombasa

The "Likoni Sheltered Workshop", where development assistants from the German Development Service have been engaged for some five years, produces a programme of modern furniture which makes it well-nigh independent economically speaking. There are jobs and training facilities as well as accomodation in the workshop for between 20 and 30 physically handicapped persons. Since the spring of 1977, one development assistant has built up the separate training department. The second development assistant organises and heads the administration of the workshop and the marketing of the products. At the same time, he is responsible for further APDK projects in the coastal province.

Professions: Joiner
Production Engineer

Kandara Water Scheme

(1 Development Assistant)

Project Location: Kandara, Murang'a District

The Kandara Water Scheme is a rural "harambee" - (self-help) project to supply drinking water to some 200,000 people living on the eastern slopes of Mt. Aberdare. It is the largest project of its kind in Kenya. The development assistant directs qualified labourers and labourers without any vocational training together with volunteers from among the population in the laying of water pipes, the setting up of tap connexions as well as other operations. He supervises the building sites within one sector of the construction sections. As superintendent of construction he is also responsible for the material disposition, the transportation of the building materials and the overall construction planning.

Profession: Certificated Construction Engineer

As far as operations "on the spot" are concerned, the following report contained in the "Ruhrnachrichten" daily newspaper on Jan. 3rd, 1979 provides a certain amount of insight:

Development Assistance aimed at Self-Help

Lahn (dpa) "If someone washes your back, don't ask him to wash your face as well": this African proverb characterises the "Tikato" programme, development assistance which is making an impression and which stimulates self-help.

"Tikato" has become a model for development assistance. The programme was started up in 1974 at the time of the major drought in Africa's Sahel Zone to the north of the Equator by two church circles Wetzlar and Braunfels in the Lahn-Dill District of Hesse. Originally, the action was intended as disaster relief in conjunction with the "Brot für die Welt" campaign and destined only to last for a short space of time in order to help finance a dam near Tikato in Upper Volta; in the meantime, the project has far exceeded the scope of conventional aid programmes. The construction of the dam is long since past : the reservoir has successfully undergone its tests. Maize and numerous types of vegetables grow along its banks, produce which at one time was unknown in the region.

But the "Tikato" project goes on. The people living in the Wetzlar-Braunfels area have accepted it as neighbour-to-neighbour help and donate generously. The exchange of letters between Hesse schoolchildren and pupils in Upper Volta, film reports and regular information provided by the churches involved ensure that interest in Central Hesse does not wane. By means of the 900,000 Marks collected so far, schools in Upper volta have been extended, a new school built and the development of a farm cooperative started up. The circle responsible for this project recently published a documentation of some 300 pages showing what has been achieved so far.

According to Winfried Simon, the circle's spokesman, the setting up of the rural cooperative represents the prerequisite for establishing worthwhile farm yields in Upper Volta. The Tikato action financed the equipment - simple farm implements, donkeys, seed and fertilizer. Within five years, the farmers in the cooperative are to pay back the funds which provided the equipment and these in turn will be used by the cooperative to provide other farmers with the most essential implements. First, one hundred farmers will join the cooperative next year whose equipment will also be financed by the "Tikato" project circle. "Our help is a success because we concentrate upon one country rather than scatter our aid to the winds", says Simon. For this

reason, only projects which can be actively supported by the local people are financed. When it came to the building of the school at Fafo for instance, the local people supplied the bulk of the materials and their labour voluntarily. "In the interim, we have stimulated the people towards self-help. We have shown that with a minimum of funds, a great deal can be achieved - and this has been taken as an example" says Simon. Thus for instance, the farmers have begun to construct wells of their own without requesting development assistance for this purpose".

Problems and Solutions to Problems

In the course of the years, the basis for the operations of the German Development Service has experienced considerable change. Initially, it was presupposed that the very transference of expert knowledge inevitably produced positive impulses for a country's development. The idea was to "export" German diligence. As far as the host countries were concerned, projects of the voluntary services were frequently neither programmed, nor coordinated or controlled. This had to lead to a lack of success. Today, an attempt is made to deploy voluntary services in accordance with the requirements of the country in question; inversely, voluntary services often represent a component of a country's development planning. As a result, the following is to be found in Malaysia's latest Five-Year Plan: "The help given by voluntary services and expert organisations increased considerably during the period covered by the Second Malaysia Development Plan. The voluntary services have afforded a remarkable contribution by way of setting up and carrying out programmes and projects by sending trained, capable and engaged experts. It is presupposed that the voluntary services will maintain their contribution at the same level for the period of the Third Malaysian Development Plan".

Reorientation also took place with regard to the number of development assistants deployed. At the beginning of the 1970s it was still being assumed that a figure of 3,000 per year could be achieved during the second half of the 1970s; in actual fact, it was then decided to deploy fewer people with better qualifications. The DED also had to get used to the fact that the host nation also wanted to have its say when it came to selecting candidates. In contrast to earlier practices, nowadays an ap-

plicant is no longer allocated a post in a project by the DED headquarters - instead, the responsible institutions in the host nation take the final decision about the acceptance and deployment of a candidate for a given project.

Last but certainly not least, considerable changes in the requirement and professional structure of development assistants have taken place. Up until the start of the 1970s for instance, the DED had the reputation of being an institution which mainly provided experts belonging to the so-called middle level. In the interim, this has changed radically: the demand for university graduates has grown considerably. In 1970, almost three quarters (73.6 per cent) of the development assistants working abroad were technicians or instructors for skilled workers and around a quarter (26.4 per cent) were graduates and academics. By the end of the year 1975, the ratio had dropped to 57 to 43 per cent. As far as the requirements of the host countries are concerned, around three quarters of their needs are at present for higher professional qualifications and a quarter for middle or lower ones.

Altogether, it can be maintained that the development service and its assistants have become more professional. Idealism and enthusiasm or a love of adventure may still be prior requirements for deployment in the Third World but these must now take a back seat to project-orientated work by trained experts. The DED itself speaks of the "Model of the integrated Expert", for the simple reason that the former division between the highly-paid expert on the one hand and the volunteer on the other can no longer be maintained. Development service is more a job than a charitable undertaking - and this is also revealed in the fact that a perfect system of social security has been created for the development assistant. Development assistants receive subsistence money (from the state), free accomodation (plus extra costs), a grant for their kit, holiday money for 30 calendar days per year, the DED pays pension and health contributions, as well as travel and transport expenses . Thus it is perhaps not surprising that the "average" development assistant is older than 25. The fact that a number of experts is south indicates that the enthusiasm of the 1960s has lessened to a certain extent. This may be a cause for regret but on the other hand, it is certain that the purpose of the exercise, namely to provide help towards self-help is far more readily achieved now overall - there are of course, exceptions - than

during the initial phase of development aid. Incidentally, the development services of the churches also pursue the same aim - just like the DED, they look for qualified experts.

If you are searching for spontaneity, you can still find it however - above all, among the younger people involved in this field.

A List of Trades and Professions which are practically always in Demand

So far, DED development assistants have come from more than 100 trades and professions. The following ones are those which are in demand practically all the time. In some cases, there is a waiting period before deployment; as far as the professions underlined are concerned, there are generally vacancies in these in the short-term. It must also be taken into account that the range of vacancies varies from month to month.

Craftsmen, qualified Workers:	bricklayers, construction fitters, toolmakers, plant electricians, car and farm machinery mechanics, master mechanics, joiners, carpenters, cabinet-makers.
Engineers, Technicians:	for civil engineering, subterranean work, road and bridge construction, town and regional planning, hydraulic engineering, water supply, sanitary technique, wood technique, high-tension, cars and farm machinery, mechanical engineers, hospital engineers
In the Farming and Forestry Sector, Horticulture:	Experts with knowledge and experience in animal and plant production or tropical agriculture/small animal rearing/fruit and vegetable growing/afforestation/cooperative schemes.
In the Health Sector:	Doctors, dentists, occupational therapists, med-technical assistants, gymnastic instructors for remedial exercises, midwives, nurses, children's nurses, orthopaedic-mechanics, teaching sisters, chemists
Education and Consultation:	Vocational/trade teachers, teachers for production processes, grammar-school teachers for natural science subjects, sports teachers, chemistry/physics engineers, certificated commercial teachers, industrial managers/commercial staff (with professional experience/knowledge of cooperative schemes), domestic science instructors and teachers (esp. rural sector), nutrition experts, social workers, educationalists (above all, with business or crafts training).

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4. Campaigns in the Federal Republic

a. The Churches

The schools and churches are traditionally the most important institutions which mobilise assistance for the countries of the Third World. There are a whole range of examples which show that young people in particular are still ready to involve themselves and make sacrifices. The following selection is a haphazard one and for this reason, it cannot claim to provide a representative picture for all young Germans. However, it does make evident that church campaigns and appeals still find an - ever recurring - response.

Thus for example, 600 young people belonging to the Bishopric of Trier assembled for a 25-kilometre long solidarity march in order to demonstrate against hunger in the Third World. In this way, 50,000 DM were collected for an irrigation project in Indonesia. A youth fair organised by the St. Paulus parish in Meppen resulted in donations amounting to 4,370 DM. The money is to go towards a development project designed to help the Pygmies in Cameroun - in accordance with the wishes of the young people. Around 100 from 500 young people, who took part in a service at Stuttgart's St. Eberhard's church, spontaneously agreed to take part in the "3 to 1 Action". In this way, they committed themselves to making available a third of their personal spending on alcohol, tobacco, etc. to the Third World.

The "Papal Mission Foundation of the Children of Germany", a sub-organisation of the Catholic Aid Foundation, Misereor, organises collections to coincide with Epiphany, which in 1978 alone brought in the grand sum of 11 million DM. The donations are made use of to set up maternity clinics, kindergartens, schools and orphanages in the developing countries.

As young people generally like to identify themselves with one concrete development project, the churches' aid organisations "Brof für die Welt" and "Misereor" have for years now offered so-called project partnerships. Action groups are appealed to, who not only want to provide material assistance but who also wish to accept a genuine educational commission. The aid foundations distribute information relating to the social and economic situation of the country in question, where the project being supported is located, and they provide tips and advice as to how one can get local politicians or newspapers interested in the project.

The two aid foundations also jointly publicise the "brotherly sharing" campaign. In accordance with this campaign, the pupils at the German School in Brussels made a collection during a school ceremony with the result that Misereor, Brot für die Welt and a Belgian organisation each received 350 DM.

Schoolchildren and Students

The German "Welthungerhilfe" is numbered among those private development aid organisations (whose activities are fostered by the Federal Government) who are able to trigger off actions for the Third World among young people. Thus for example, a school choir from the Hannoversch-Münden grammar-school gave a concert to help starving people in the developing countries. 171 DM were raised and contributed towards the German "Welthungerhilfe". The III form of the Friedrich grammar-school in Herford collected 73 DM for the "Welthungerhilfe". A young man from Bergisch-Gladbach near Cologne sold a motor-bike and a VW bus, staged street actions and door-to-door collections in Cologne - initiatives which realised a sum of 6,000 DM. A schoolboy from Alzey sold poems he had composed to his friends and acquaintances and in this way, earned 1,530 DM for the German "Welthungerhilfe". The Class 11a at the Otto-Hahn grammar-school in Furtwangen appealed to all firms in the neighbourhood to provide material and financial contributions, staged a tombola in an old people's home and the grand total of 4,470 DM which resulted from their efforts was made available to the Pestalozzi children's village in Bangalore/India. The elementary school in Niederkassel staged a grand school festival with music, dancing and theatre on behalf of the German "Welthungerhilfe". The outcome: 9,220 DM was made available for the purchase of a VW mini-bus to transport sick children and adults to the Polio-Clinic in Mombasa/Kenya.

The church aid organisations have also prompted pupils and classes at school to become active. The pupils of the Ahrweiler State Grammar-School collected 2,300 DM during their summer festival for the Misereor project - "impoverished fishing village on Timor/ Indonesia". The boys and girls of the upper classes of the elementary school at Sundern in Westphalia collected 1,580 DM for Misereor during their latest action - for an agricultural training programme.

In Korbach, a town with 23,000 inhabitants in the north of Hesse, Protestant and Catholic youth groups began actions on behalf of the church aid organisations at the start of the 1970s - at first

separately and independent of one another. Later, they came together and founded a"Third World Study Group" (AKDW) of the "Protestant and Catholic Youth of Korbach" Five years ago, this study group undertook - with the support of the churches - the first major "Action Zambia 74", which concerned the financial support of a development project sponsored jointly by Misereor and Brot für die Welt. Three years later, a project in Tanzania was focused upon and the local branches of the parties represented in the Bonn parliament also cooperated. Donations were called for through information sessions, the distribution of documentations about Tanzania in particular and the problems faced by the developing countries in general, via the local press, leaflets and placards. The action group had a proud figure to relate at the end of it all: more than 13,000 DM were collected.

The Bonn "action five" caused quite a stir at student level. The persons taking part in this campaign - at present around 40 - allot five per cent of their income every month for development projects in Latin-America, Asia and Africa. The 20 founder members arrived at a total of 400 DM per month, today, around 1,000 DM are available every month for the projects in question. These include assistance given to an Indian village in the construction of wells and help in procuring a water filter for a Rwandan village. In addition, grants are made available to young Mexicans to attend a school of agriculture.

The "Action Self-Taxation - Peace through just Development Policy" (ASB) operates in a similar fashion. It was set up at the 1969 Protestant Church Congress in Stuttgart. Today, the ASB has 120 to 130 ordinary members aged between 20 and 40 - and is continuing to grow - who contribute aroung 50,000 DM annually to the organisation. The ASB for instance, promotes schemes such as a tailoring cooperative - for which it provides 7,000 DM, a joiners' cooperative in Ecuador - 5,000 DM; then it provides 10,000 DM to create jobs on the Cape Verde Islands as well as 4,000 DM for the inhabitants of the slum districts of Santiago de Chile.

The World University Service - WUS - is an association of professors, students and academicians in more than 60 countries all over the world. This international community of members of higher seats of learning - the WUS - has the following goals: It opposes attempts to restrict freedom in the field of study, teaching and

research, it encourages the involvement of universities in solving the problems of their society, and it rejects any form of discrimination, exploitation and injustice, especially in the field of education. In this connexion, grants are made available e.g. for pupils and students in southern Africa and in Latin America. In addition, campaigns to teach people how to read and write, village development programmes or health schemes are launched. The work of the German Committee of the WUS is primarily determined by the large number of foreign students at German higher seats of learning.

In addition to all this, the German Committee of the WUS supports educational institutes in the developing countries, including e.g. the St. Peter's Kubatana Vocational School in Zimbabwe Rhodesia. This school was set up upon the initiative of dwellers in the "townships" - the black suburbs surrounding the "white" towns - in conjunction with the WUS in Rhodesia. The school receives no kind of financial support from the government, quite on the contrary, obstacles are placed in the way of its work through administrative directives. In view of the forthcoming take-over of the reins of governmental responsibility by the Africans in Zimbabwe Rhodesia, the German Committee of the WUS decided to support the St. Peter's Kubatana School - "Kubatana" means in this case "Solidarity" - financially.

In order to raise the necessary funds, the WUS in cooperation with another action group involved in the field of development policy (Solidarische Welt e.V.) called for donations from around 6,000 persons at higher seats of learning. Thanks to this action, the WUS Germany has been able to provide the school with around 48,000 DM since October 1976; around 40 sponsors providing a fixed monthly sum help to secure the existence of the school. Further means of support were opened up through a sponsorship agreement between the St. Peter's Kubatana School and the Otto-Hain grammar-school in Göttingen which began functioning at the end of 1978.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation in Bonn observes development political initiatives of the type described understandably with great approval - and also provides encouragement e.g. in the shape of an Action Handbook for the Third World which carries the sub-title "For All Those who Want to Have Something to Do with the Third World". In this manual, tips are provided for preparing actions in the sector of development policy, for

properly organising public events, for actions in the streets, about work in the schools, cooperation with the media. Legal advice is provided as well as tips for the best-possible publicity. The manual also contains a list of addresses of organisations engaged in the field of development policy - t[illegible]ng up almost 70 pages.

Aid through Trade

Art handicrafts from the developing countries with their exotic touch are ideally suitable for mobilising aid for the Third World. Churches and other private organisations have for years now concerned themselves with the sale of products from Africa, Asia and Latin America as a contribution towards development assistance. In the Federal Republic of Germany this takes place through GEPA - the Society for Fostering Partnership with the Third World, which is based in Wuppertal. It was set up jointly by the church development services.

The GEPA has been in existence since 1975 although the idea behind it goes back to 1970. In that year, following a "peace march", Protestant and Catholic youth organisations instituted the "Action Third World Trade". In the autumn of that year, no less than 70 local actions took place at which goods worth 200,000 DM were sold. In 1975, 1,500 groups achieved a turnover of almost 3 million DM, today in part, they are GEPA clients. At present, the Society supplies around 100 Third World Shops and approximately 4,000 - mostly church - action groups. It purchases foodstuffs and art handicrafts from self-help institutions in the developing countries - institutions which are also encouraged by organisations here. The prices which are paid are frequently above those paid on the world market. There are around 800 articles in the range and they are sold with a mark-up of 42 per cent. The GEPA is a non-profit making undertaking but it is run along commercial lines. The annual turnover according to recent figures amounts to a good four million DM.

A good quarter of this turnover is attained by the Third World Shops Company, a subsidiary of the German "Welthungerhilfe". This organisation has only one shop which is located in Bonn but 90 per cent of its turnover is obtained through mail orders from a catalogue. The organisation pays the producer of hand-woven carpets, silver jewellery or pottery half as much again for his goods as he would receive from importers. The cost prices account for around the half of the turnover, 10 to 15 per cent

of the turnover goes back into the developing countries for rural development projects.

The German Committee of the World University Service (WUS) - which we have already referred to - offers art handicrafts from all over the world at an annual "Bazar of Far-Away Peoples". These include, e.g. batik work from Sri Lanka, basketry from Africa and ceramic figures from Ecuador. The prime concern of the WUS is also to ensure through the sale of such goods that the producers in the poor countries are stimulated further towards self-help.

The "Weltapotheke" in Tübingen, which recently celebrated its fifteenth anniversary, also works along the lines of "help towards self-help". The "Weltapotheke" sends medicaments and medical equipment to 55 countries throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America. These are in part distributed by the doctors and nurses who are deployed by the "German Institute for Medical Mission" or for the church development services. Most of the medicaments are donated by industry or by chemists and doctors.

"Care Deutschland" was founded this year - an aid organisation set up in accordance with the American forerunner. After the war, the US organisation sent nine million CARE parcels to Germany in order to alleviate the suffering of the starving millions here. Once Europe was back on its economic feet again, the organisation began concentrating its activities in the developing nations. Care Deutschland's first action concerned Uganda. Appeals for donations resulted in a sum of 250,000 DM being raised which was used to buy foodstuffs for the Ugandan people. In order to be able to continue this aid programme, sales of work were held - with ginger-bread and mulled wine - in Bonn.

Indeed, such sales of goods are a popular means of raising money for the developing states. Thus for instance, the Catholic Rural Youth Movement in Paderborn sells small loaves of bread annually in the streets, public squares or in front of churches costing one Mark each - under the motto "Thank and Give". Thanks to this "Action Mini-Bread" as it is known, between seventy and eighty thousand DM were collected regularly in the course of the last few years. During "open house" day at the Hanns-Purrmann grammar-school, Class 5a sold coloured eggs at a stall with the proceeds going to the "Welthungerhilfe". Altogether, the pupils collected 350 DM. Schoolchildren at the Imberg elementary school collected unwanted lamps, crockery and books and other objects and sold them

at a bazar in the town centre. The proceeds - 824 DM - went to the "Welthungerhilfe". The study group Third World in Baden-Baden was able to collect 2,000 DM during a church sale of work staged by the St. Josef parsonage through the sale of tea, spices, and bags made of jute. As a result, a partnership project in Cameroun could be supported.

The Development of applied Technologies

The West's belief in miracles - which once was shared by many developing countries - and according to which the export of know-how automatically triggered off economic progress in Third World nations, has long since been replaced by more sober considerations: you cannot combat hunger with steelworks. Technology in general cannot afford a contribution towards development - merely a special type of technology. This can be modern developments such as communications or television satellites, by means of which educational programmes can be transmitted; this can also be effected through adapting modern technologies to fit the requirements of the Third World. First of course, someone must come up with the idea.

Students and professors at the Technical University in Berlin had such an idea. They set up an"inter-disciplinary study-group for applied technology"(IPAT) which posed itself the task of setting development aid - understood as help towards self-help - free of outside dependencies. For this purpose, they intend to develop technologies, which can be made in the developing nations without any great capital outlay and which have been manufactured in such a simple and straightforward way that they can be serviced and repaired by the local population. A first example for such simple machines for poor regions of the world is the wind pump, i.e. a water pump driven by wind. An unsuccessful experiment occasioned the building of the wind pump. In the 1960s, the government of Egypt ordered ultra-modern wind pumps in the USA in order to improve irrigation in regions away from the Nile. For as long as American experts looked after the project everything went well. However, once they left, the local people were not in a position to service the complicated systems let alone repair them with the result that the wind pumps just stood there and did nothing. The Berlin study-group made the effort to simplify the system to such an extent that fairly skilful farmers were in a position to construct it themselves using their own materials such as wood, old tire tubes or canvas. As far as the development work was concerned, the Greek mathematician Archimedes had laid the foundation thanks

to the screw which he developed all of 250 years Before Christ, which is to be found today in every mincing-machine: with it substantial quantities of water can be obtained from shallow water in lakes and rivers.

Thanks to this project, which was developed in various types, development assistance organisations became greatly interested in the IPAT. The same applies for new irrigation systems and bio-gas plants. The Federal Ministry of Economics has agreed to provide funds to promote further schemes of this nature.

The Engagement of Ideals: Publications and Demands

The activities of action groups engaged in the field of development policy are by no means restricted to the staging of bazars or collections. In publications, such as e.g. the "Forum of Development-Political Action Groups" a pronounced overall political involvement becomes discernible. These groups are not merely concerned with supplying material assistance, they also support certain "liberation movements", the struggle against dictatorships and the protection of ethnic minorities.

Action groups engaged in the development political field are not restricted by any kind of diplomatic or economic straight-jacket - they can freely express themselves and put forward demands and occasionally, in the process - overstep the mark. Supporters of all political shades can find their place here - even such people who do not exactly approve of the economic and social structure of the Federal Republic. It would, however, be wrorg to dismiss action groups in the field of development policy simply as organisations full of political sectarians, only because they have opinions which differ from those of the Federal Government. In addition, certain developments adjust themselves of their own accord. Groups, which represent extreme views, find no response and consequently remain isolated.

Schools and Development Policy

The recognition that state development assistance contributions, which are financed from the taxpayer's money, are necessary to an increasing degree in the interests of the Federal Republic of Germany, is not one accepted by all citizens of this country. Examples of development aid gone wrong, the pomp of certain potentates as well as - pure and simply - prejudices have not made it exactly easy to arouse understanding among the population

for the needs of the Third World and the necessities of development policy. As is so often the case, this is a generation problem. The schools in the Federal Republic of Germany are now beginning to introduce lessons dealing with development policy to an increasing extent and to draw young people's attention to problems which are still alien to them just as they are alien to many grown-ups. As a result, in all of the latest teaching curricula and guidelines of the eleven Federal Länder for elementary schools, the subjects "International Understanding, Peace Education and Development Aid" are dealt with either directly or indirectly. Thus e.g. in the "Guidelines and Teaching Curricula for Elementary Schools in North-Rhine Westphalia" it states in the section relating to "Peoples of the World", an "insight into the varying customs and habits of other peoples in conjunction with climate, environment, religion, eating habits, accomodation and work". However, although the "International Understanding, Peace Education and Development Aid" range of subjects is dealt with relatively frequently in the relevant curricula and guidelines, there is only a limited number of teaching examples and materials tried out in practice for the "Third World in the Elementary School" sector.

Recently, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation voiced its disapproval of the fact that the subject "Third World" was not adequately dealt with in teaching curricula and text books. For this reason, it has stepped up its efforts to have subjects in the field of development policy taken more into consideration at school. With the support of the Ministry, the "Study Group Elementary School" - a registered society comprised of 7,000 elementary school teachers from all over the country - initiated in summer 1979 a project which is designed to span several years called the "Third World in the Elementary School". The aim of this project is to be able to introduce lessons in - if possible - all elementary schools throughout the Federal Republic of Germany which are in a position to foster a positive approach with regard to Third World countries. Just how necessary this is, has been shown by tests which reveal that negative attitudes vis-à-vis all that is foreign tend to harden unless something is done to correct these along proper educational lines in the schools. Examples to be used in the classroom are distributed by means of supplements to the magazine "Grundschule" (circulation 21,000). To start the ball rolling, the entire July edition of the "Grundschule" was devoted to the subject "Children and the Third World". The Ministry described the initial reactions as "encouraging".

Around eighty elementary school teachers from all over the country have already written in to say they are interested in cooperating actively.

5. Experiences and Conclusions

The numerous examples of well-intended and successful initiatives and actions on behalf of the developing countries cannot conceal the fact that young people overall do not yet fully appreciate the situation in the Third World. The average pupil or student is far too involved with the school, vocational training or his studies to be able to "bother" about countries which at the most represent an interesting place to spend a holiday. However, it would not be fair to accuse young Germans as a consequence that they are materialistic and incapable of solidarity with poor countries. It can be presupposed from the very onset that the readiness to assist exists. The problem - and the task - is to mobilise this willingness to assist. The churches can only do this to the extent that they reach young people and can appeal to them. The same applies to the schools and universities. An important task in education but one which so far has not been sufficiently exploited is educating towards solidarity with the poor countries and the passing on of the recognition that not only the developing countries depend upon the aid contributions of the rich but inversely the industrial nations are also dependent upon the poor ones. It is extremely encouraging therefore to observe the fact that notwithstanding, pupils and students or even whole school classes are already demonstrating their willingness to help.

There is an additional factor as well: The number of young people, who have obtained direct contact to Third World countries thanks to the development services and who have become closely familiar with their problems is on the increase. They act as multiplicators and are able to contribute towards removing prejudices as they possess experience of their own and as a result, can present problems and requirements in a particularly credible fashion. The willingness to assist can only be awakened - especially in the case of young people - if those appealed to can be convinced that their engagement is worthwhile - that their involvement is not wasted. This is where the organisations engaged in the field of development policy come in. For mistrust or a lack of interest can be removed if people come to hear - or are informed - that the deployment of a development assistant was no waste of time or that the money, which was collected was used for concrete projects rather than

having been swallowed up by bureaucratic processes. The willingness to assist grows not only among adults but also - and particularly among young people to the extent to which they are able to identify themselves with a country or with a project.

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